THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Indian Airlines operates a daily B-737 non-stop direct flight on Delhi-Ahmedabad-Delhi sectors in the morning hours and a daily evening flight between Ahmedabad and Delhi via Jaipur-Jodhpur sectors.

(b) Indian Airlines has received requests to operate a direct flight in the evening on the Delhi-Ahmedabad-Delhi sectors.

(c) Due to acute shortage of operating aircraft capacity, it is at present not possible to introduce a direct non-stop service on the Delhi-Ahmedabad-Delhi sector in the evening.

Khajuraho Sculptures facing destruction

1119. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:
SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI P. N. SUKUL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Khajuraho sculptures are facing destructive weathering and the south and north sides of the Lakshmana and Khanderia temples have turned black due to excessive rains; and

(b) whether Government propose to allocate a special fund to speed up their conservation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No, Sir. Some black spots were noticed on the northern and southern sides of Lakshmana and Khandaria Mahadeo temples at Khajuraho due to stagnation and absorption of rain water. They have been given chemical treatment and shown excellent results. Further work is in progress to eradicate those black spots.

b) Funds have been ear-marked for their structural conservation and chemical preservation. If necessary, more funds will be allocated for these temples.

Agency for handling ship cargo in Kashmir

1120. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KAR: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no agency in Kashmir for handling ship cargo, if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Goverment propose to start an out-agency for shipping cargo in Kashmir in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Ship cargoes for exports from inland areas are handled by shipping agents who are generally situated at gateway ports from where cargo originating from hinterland areas moves. Government have no information whether any such shipping agent is located in Kashmir.

(b) No, Sir.

Persuation to Doctors to serve in the Rural Areas

1121. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme under the Central Government's consideration to persuade doctors to move to rural areas; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?